



1-353rd Infantry Battalion Headquarters and Headquarters Company Company First Sergeant



1SG Eric Buggeln, originally from Augusta, KS, graduated from Augusta High School in Augusta, KS. After attending three years of college at York College in York, NE, 1SG Buggeln entered military service in September 1997. He attended Basic and Advanced Individual Training at Fort Sill, Oklahoma being awarded the Military Occupational Specialty of 13M, Multiple Launch Rocket System Crewmember. After Basic and AIT he was assigned to Alpha Battery, 1st Battalion 14th Field Artillery where he served as an MLRS driver. His subsequent assignments include Charlie Battery 1st Battalion 33rd Field Artillery in Bamberg, Germany where he was an MLRS Gunner and Recon Sergeant. His other assignments include Alpha and Bravo Batteries of 1st Battalion 12th Field Artillery in Fort Sill, Oklahoma where he was an MLRS Chief and Bravo Battery 5th Battalion 3rd Field Artillery also at Fort Sill. 1SG Buggeln was then reclassified in 2007 and completed training to become a 13F

Forward Observer. After being re-classed to 13F, he was assigned to 1/1 IN BDE to serve as a member on a MTT in support of 3/9/3 Iraqi Infantry BN with a follow on assignment to 4th Battalion 9th Infantry and 2nd Battalion 23rd Infantry in Joint Base Lewis/McChord in Washington where he served as both a BN Targeting NCO and BN Fires NCO.

1SG Buggeln's deployments include: OIF 2003-2004, OIF 2005-2006 as part of a Convoy Escort attachment, OIF 2008-2009 as the Fires NCO/Trainer on 3/9/3 MiTT, and to OEF 2012-2013 as an LNO for 162nd IN BDE in support of theatre SFAAT operations.

Currently, 1SG Buggeln is assigned as the Headquarters and Headquarters Company First Sergeant for 1st Battalion, 353rd Infantry Regiment, 162nd Infantry Brigade at Fort Polk, Louisiana.

His military education and training include Warrior Leaders Course, Advanced Leaders Course, Senior Leaders Course, Combatives Level 2, Military Transition Team and Advanced Military Transition Team Courses, Joint Collateral Damage Course, and Joint Operational Fires and Effects Course.

1SG Buggeln's awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal (4 OLC), the Army Achievement Medal (4OLC), the Joint Meritorious Unit Award, the Army Good Conduct Medal (5th Award), the National Defense Service Medal, the Kosovo Campaign Medal, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, the Iraq Campaign Medal, the NCO Professional Development Medal with numeral 3, and the Combat Action Badge.